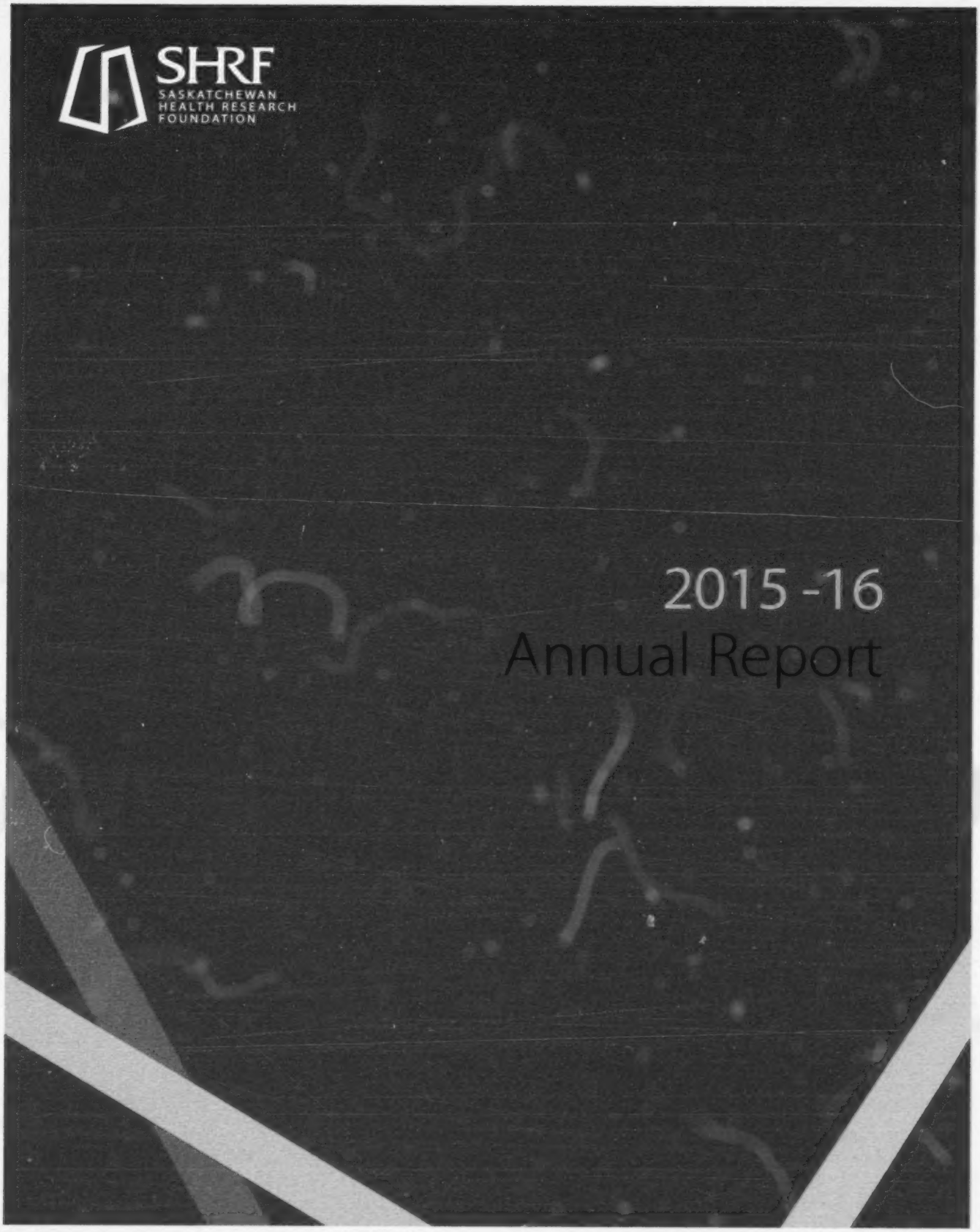
SHRF
SASKATCHEWAN
HEALTH RESEARCH
FOUNDATION
2015 -16
Annual Report

Letter of Transmittal from the Minister Responsible for Innovation

Her Honour, the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the annual report of Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016.

Honourable Jeremy Harrison
Minister Responsible for Innovation

Letter of Transmittal from the Board Chair

The Honorable Jeremy Harrison
Minister Responsible for Innovation

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to submit for your consideration the annual report of Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation for the fiscal year period April 1, 2015, to March 31, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Somers, PhD
Board Chair

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Mandate

Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF) was established by an act of legislature in 2002. The mandate provided to SHRF by the Government of Saskatchewan is to:

- Seek and receive funding to support health research
- Encourage and facilitate health research
- Assist the Minister of Health in developing a provincial strategy
- Fund research according to the strategy
- Disseminate information about funded research

Vision

By 2021, SHRF will have led the establishment of a vibrant culture of health research and innovation for a stronger Saskatchewan.

Mission

SHRF leads strategic investments in high-impact, peer-reviewed health research aligned with provincial needs; builds and broadens Saskatchewan's health research and innovation capacity; and facilitates the use of health research findings for informed decision-making at all levels, from the individual to care providers to policy-makers.

Values

Excellence: SHRF's activities and investments serve as the catalyst for excellence in health research and innovation.
Collaboration: SHRF's activities and investments facilitate the creation of partnerships among researchers, health care providers, patients and families, communities, not-for-profits and industry that support the creation and adoption of new knowledge and health innovations.
Transparency and Accountability: SHRF's decision-making and business processes are open and accessible. We provide unbiased, peer-reviewed processes; evaluate and measure the impact of the research we fund; and report publicly on developments in health research across the province.
Efficiency and Effectiveness: SHRF's lean organization allows it to be flexible and nimble in responding to the health research and innovation priorities of Saskatchewan, and to ensure that we meet the needs of our stakeholders and funders.

2015-16 Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation Team

Heather Magotiaux
Chief Executive Officer
Patrick Odnokon
Director of Impact and Evaluation
(formerly Interim CEO, term ended October '15)
Luan Nuefeld
Executive Assistant
Lina Kazan
Director of Finance
Irene Blum
Senior Accountant
Karen Glazebrook
Director of Funding Programs
Danielle Robertson-Boersma
Funding Programs Officer
Tanya Skorobohach
Programs Coordinator
Kathryn Thompson
Director of Communications and Outreach
Nikki Desjardins
Communications and Outreach Officer
Pamela Riffel
Communications Coordinator

Letter from the Board Chair

Every success experienced by SHRF is due to the solid foundation of excellence that has been cultivated over the past 12 years thanks to the commitment exemplified by the Board of Directors, staff and other supporters. This steadfast dedication has been seen during a year of much change for SHRF as an organization, from shifting provincial portfolios to a physical relocation of the office and the addition of new staff, leadership and board members.

Shifting portfolios to fall under Innovation Saskatchewan from the Ministry of Health at the beginning of the fiscal year presented an opportunity to focus our efforts on even more innovation and collaboration. As part of SHRF's commitment to invest in high-impact, peer-reviewed health research aligned with provincial needs, we recognize the importance of fostering collaborative partnerships and stakeholder engagement. This year, SHRF procured new and renewed partnerships, demonstrated the impact of ongoing research, and broadened communication and outreach efforts.

In November, SHRF welcomed new leadership with the appointment of Heather Magotiaux as Chief Executive Officer (CEO). An award-winning strategist and results-oriented leader with more than two decades of experience in strategic communications, resource development, and reputation and relationship management, Heather has led the development of a new strategic plan. This plan will guide operational excellence and aim to capitalize on current strengths, address gaps and create powerful synergies. I would like to extend the board's appreciation to Patrick Odnokon for acting as Interim CEO and for keeping the organization on track and moving forward during this time of transition.

It's a natural evolution for an organization to grow and change under the influence of its environment. The health research landscape in our province is no exception, and SHRF is in a strong position to accomplish great things, inevitably resulting in a healthier place to live for everyone. The Board of Directors is confident in the abilities and enthusiasm of the SHRF team to execute the strategic plan that will create a vibrant culture of health research and innovation for a stronger Saskatchewan.

Donald Somers

Don Somers, PhD
Board Chair

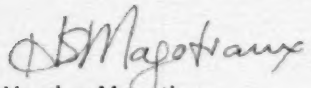
Letter from the CEO

As SHRF moves from a time of transition to a time of renewal, I'm pleased to lead the organization in a new strategic direction toward a vibrant culture of health research and innovation for a stronger Saskatchewan. Our province enjoys exceptional investment into an infrastructure that has the capacity to support and promote world-class health research, right here at home. It is this opportunity that SHRF intends to maximize in the next five years and beyond.

At SHRF, we are committed to building and broadening Saskatchewan's health research and innovation capacity. One of the ways we will do this is through our partnership in Saskatchewan's efforts related to the national Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR). One of SHRF's commitments includes offering several SPOR-related funding opportunities over the next five years. In 2015-16, we introduced the first of such opportunities to be awarded in the next fiscal year, building on the successful Collaborative Innovation Development grant program. We also held two networking events related to this call that brought together those necessary to complete patient-oriented research, including researchers, decision-makers, health care providers and patient/family advisors.

Each of us has been affected by health research in some way. Whether it's studying the cause of disease or investigating new methods of improving access to health care in our communities, SHRF is investing in finding solutions to improve the quality of life for us all.

Every vehicle needs fuel, and SHRF provides the funding necessary to fuel health research and innovation in Saskatchewan. Our commitment to providing high-quality, peer-reviewed processes for health research that is responsive to provincial needs, our focus on accountability and impact, and our emphasis on partnerships and collaboration enable Saskatchewan health researchers to place themselves among the world's best, allowing the province to be a global leader in creating and adopting new health innovations.



Heather Magotiaux
Chief Executive Officer

Agency Overview

SHRF's commitment to providing high-quality, peer-reviewed processes for health research that is responsive to provincial needs, its focus on accountability and impact, and its emphasis on partnerships and collaboration enable Saskatchewan health researchers to place themselves among the world's best, allowing the province to be a global leader in creating and adopting new health innovations.

Governance

SHRF's activities are guided by a board of directors whose membership is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. Membership can be drawn from the health research community, government, health delivery system, business and public at large.

Membership consists of not more than 12 members who hold office for a term not exceeding three years, renewable once. Each Board member also serves one of two current standing committees – Governance, and Finance and Audit.

A Governance Framework and Policies document sets out the Board's governance philosophy, its processes and policies for managing the affairs and business of SHRF. In 2015-16, a total of four board meetings were held. Figures in brackets indicate the number of meetings each board member attended.

2015-16 Board of Directors

Gordon McKay (3)
(Chair until September 17, 2015)
University of Saskatchewan

Don Somers (4)
(Chair as of November 3, 2015)
Private Business, Consulting

Shanthi Johnson (3)
(Vice Chair until September 17, 2015)
University of Regina

Petrina McGrath (1)
(Vice Chair as of November 3, 2015)
Saskatoon Health Region

Brent Brownlee (3)
Ministry of Advanced Education

Tami Denomie (4)
Ministry of Health

Cecile Hunt (3)
Prince Albert Parkland Health Region

David Katz (2)
Innovation Saskatchewan

Robert Sheldon (3)
University of Calgary

William Albritton (2)
(until September 17, 2015)
University of Saskatchewan

Craig Chamberlin (1)
(until September 17, 2015)
University of Regina

Beth Horsburgh (3)
(until September 17, 2015)
University of Saskatchewan

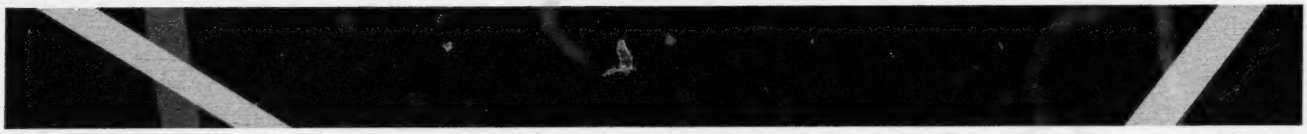
Tom Porter (1)
(until September 17, 2015)
Private Business

Josef Buttigieg (1)
(newly appointed)
University of Regina

Vivian Ramsden (1)
(newly appointed)
University of Saskatchewan

John Thiel (0)
(newly appointed)
University of Saskatchewan

Joe Vidal (1)
(newly appointed)
Private Business



Peer Review

Applications received for SHRF grant and award competitions are subject to a rigorous peer review process. Committees of active researchers and health professionals use a rating scale of excellence to assess research proposals, answering the following questions:

- Is it relevant and original?
- Is it feasible and ethical?
- Does it adhere to the objectives and priorities of the funding program?
- Does the researcher or team have the expertise and support to conduct the research?

Our volunteer reviewers are not only instrumental in evaluating proposals and providing feedback to applicants; they also provide valuable insight to SHRF about procedures, programs, practices and trends in the health research community.

Peer review for programs where SHRF is partnering with other funding agencies may be done by the other agency, so long as SHRF requirements are met.

2015-16 Peer Review Committee Membership

Committee membership is typically for a three-year term. In 2015-16, the following peer reviewers provided their expertise. Figures in parenthesis indicate number of years served, including current year.

Biomedical Fellowship Review Committee

Thomas Fisher (Chair) (1)
Department of Physiology
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Mohan Babu (1)
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Faculty of Science
University of Regina

Juan Ianowski (2)
Department of Physiology
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Emily Jenkins (3)
Department of Veterinary Microbiology
Western College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Scot Leary (2)
Department of Biochemistry
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Daniel MacPhee (1)
Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
Western College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Helen Nichol (2)
Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Heather Wilson (3)
Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization - International Vaccine Centre

Aaron White (1)
Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization - International Vaccine Centre

Biomedical Establishment Grant Review Committee

Keith Bonham (Chair) (3)
Saskatchewan Cancer Agency

Andrew Cameron (1)
Department of Biology
Faculty of Science
University of Regina

Linda Chelico (2)
Department of Microbiology and Immunology
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Philip Griebel (3)
Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization - International Vaccine Centre
School of Public Health
University of Saskatchewan

Ali Honaramooz (2)
Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
Western College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Kirk McManus (1)
Research Institute in Oncology and Hematology
University of Manitoba/Cancer Care Manitoba

Scot Stone (3)
Department of Biochemistry
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Socio-Health, Systems and Clinical Review Committee

Donna Goodridge (Chair) (3)
Division of Respirology, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Cathy Arnold (3)
School of Physical Therapy
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Darren Candow (1)
Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies
University of Regina

Robin Evans (2)
Faculty of Nursing
University of Regina

John Gjevre (3)
Division of Respirology, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Nancy Gyurcsik (3)
College of Kinesiology
University of Saskatchewan

Gerri Lasuik (3)
Faculty of Nursing
University of Alberta

Joshua Lawson (2)
Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Jennifer Nicol (3)
Education Psychology and Special Education
College of Education
University of Saskatchewan

Vivian Ramsden (2)
Department of Family Medicine
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

Ulrich Teucher (3)
Department of Psychology
College of Arts and Science
University of Saskatchewan

Collaborative Innovative Development Grants Review Committee Members

Alexander Clark (Chair – Health Services and Population Health)
Faculty of Nursing
University of Alberta

Vivian Mushahwar (Chair – Biomedical and Clinical)
Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Department of Medicine
University of Alberta

Joan Almost
School of Nursing
Faculty of Health Sciences
Queen's University

Rachelle Ashcroft
School of Social Work
University of Waterloo

Louis Bherer
Department of Psychology
Concordia University

Brian Christie
Division of Medical Sciences
University of Victoria

Malcolm Doupe
Department of Community Health Sciences
Faculty of Medicine
University of Manitoba

Etienne Leygue
Research Institute in Oncology and Hematology
University of Manitoba/Cancer Care Manitoba

Marion Maar
Department of Medical Anthropology
Laurentian University

Joy MacDermid
School of Rehabilitation Sciences
Faculty of Health Sciences
McMaster University

Deborah Marshall
Department of Community Health Sciences
Faculty of Medicine
University of Calgary

Maria Matthews
Health Policy/Health Care Delivery
Faculty of Medicine
Memorial University of Newfoundland

Amanda Newton
Department of Pediatrics
Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
University of Alberta

Michael Noseworthy
Electrical and Computer Engineering
McMaster University

Alison Novak
Toronto Rehabilitation Institute

Michelle Porter
Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management
University of Manitoba

Sheri Lynn Price
School of Nursing
Dalhousie University

Leigh Anne Swayne
Division of Medical Sciences
University of Victoria

Jennifer Walker
School of Human and Social Development
Faculty of Applied and Professional Studies
Nipissing University

Greg Wohl
Department of Mechanical Engineering
School of Biomedical Engineering
McMaster University

Spinal Cord Injury Research Grant Review Committee Members

Karim Fouad (Chair) (3)
Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine
University of Alberta

Kristine Cowley (2)
Department of Physiology and Pathophysiology
Faculty of Medicine
University of Manitoba

Catherine Donnelly (2)
School of Rehabilitation Therapy
Faculty of Health Sciences
Queen's University

Soheila Karimi (3)
Department of Physiology and Pathophysiology
Faculty of Medicine
University of Manitoba

Tania Lam (1)
School of Kinesiology
Faculty of Education
University of British Columbia

Christopher West (1)
School of Kinesiology
Faculty of Education
University of British Columbia

Year at a Glance

In 2015-16, SHRF moved from a time of transition to a time of renewal. SHRF welcomed new leadership, new employees and new Board members, and even settled in to a new office space at Innovation Place. SHRF's commitment to providing high-quality, peer-reviewed processes for research that is responsive to provincial needs, its focus on accountability and impact, and its emphasis on partnerships and collaboration enable Saskatchewan health researchers to place themselves among the world's best, allowing the province to be a global leader in creating and adopting new health innovations.

SHRF's 2015-16 Annual Report will provide a highlight of activities in the following areas:

- Funding and Partnerships
- Impact and Evaluation
- Communications and Outreach

Funding and Partnerships

SHRF is committed to investing in high-impact, peer-reviewed health research aligned with provincial needs, and building and broadening Saskatchewan's health research and innovation capacity. In 2015-16, we continued to work with key stakeholders to offer a varied suite of funding opportunities, including the introduction of a new targeted opportunity with the patient-oriented research Collaborative Innovation Development (CID) grant, and our partnerships continued to grow as we work toward building a vibrant culture of health research and innovation in the province.

Programs Overview

SHRF programs evolve as the research environment in Saskatchewan changes and a greater emphasis is placed on innovation and collaboration. The focus is always human health and encompasses biomedical science, clinical research, health services and systems research, and research on the cultural, social and environmental determinants of population health.

In 2015-16, SHRF signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with St. Thomas More College. This increases the number of institutions capable of holding SHRF funding and further broadens the pool of affiliated researchers that can apply for SHRF grants and awards.

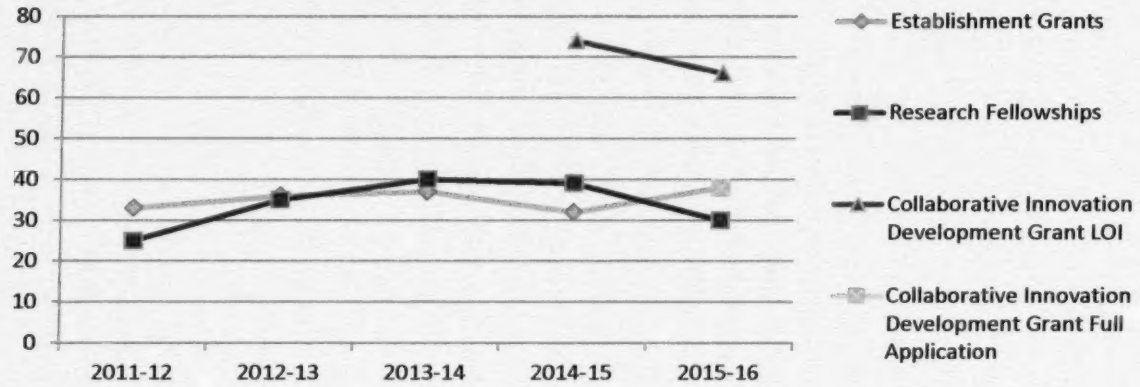
Certain provisions of the MOU agreements have changed with the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina. In an effort to provide a more efficient process, researchers are no longer required to provide SHRF with ethical and safety approvals before funding is authorized. Going forward, SHRF will rely on the universities' strong internal processes, which ensure ethical and safety requirements are in place before funding is released to researchers and continue throughout the term of the award. This change will help streamline the research funding process.

SHRF values collaboration and seeks to build partnerships with key stakeholders to not only create a vibrant culture of health research and innovation, but to increase funding available to Saskatchewan

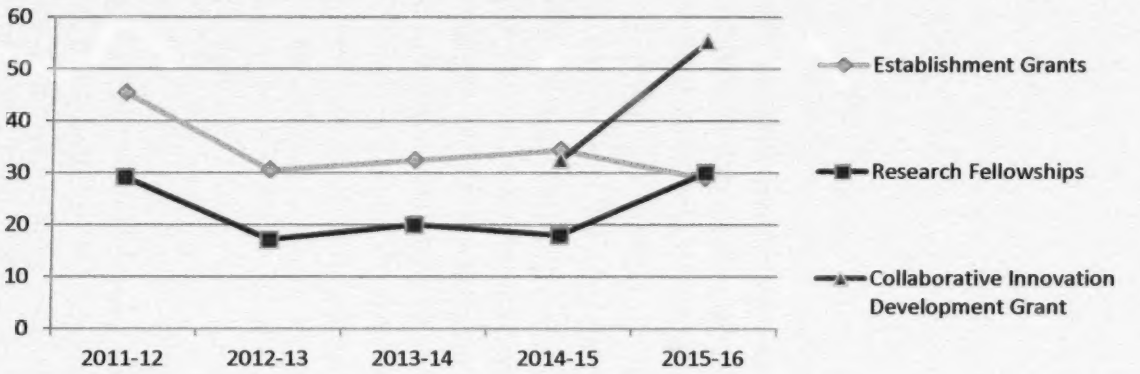
health researchers and their teams. These 2015-16 funding partnerships will be highlighted in each relevant program overview that follows.

Our long-standing programs saw similar demand and success rates in 2015-16 as in previous years, and the second offering of the Collaborative Innovation Development grant was once again a popular competition.

Number of Applications by Program and Year



Percentage Success Rates by Program and Year



SHRF Applications Received, Recommended and Awarded 2015-16

SHRF Program	Received		Recommended		Awarded*			
	No.	$	No.	$	No.	Term (yrs)	SHRF $	Partner $
Collaborative Innovation Development Grants (Letters of Intent)	66	2,433,816	39	1,455,391	n/a	n/a	**n/a**	**n/a**
Collaborative Innovation Development Grants (Full Applications)	38	1,469,272	24	951,466	21	1	**754,817**	**78,598[1]**
Establishment Grants	38	4,237,949	21	2,351,374	11	3	**1,244,533**	
Research Fellowships	30	3,000,000	20	2,000,000	9	2	**850,000**	**50,000[2]**
Research Connections Grants	22	100,250	18	84,700	18	n/a	**84,700**	**n/a**
Spinal Cord Injury Research Grants	5	333,381	4	272,322	3	2	**217,621**	**n/a**
Total	**199**	**11,574,668**	**126**	**7,115,253**	**62**		**3,151,671**	**128,598**

* Awarded amounts are for the full term of the grant.

[1] $39,987 from Lung Association of Saskatchewan and $38,611 from Canadian Frailty Network

[2] $50,000 from Crohn's and Colitis Canada

Research Fellowships

SHRF's Research Fellowship program (formerly called Postdoctoral Research Fellowships) provides financial support to high-quality candidates for a period of postdoctoral research in a health-related field under the supervision of an experienced, active researcher. It is intended to advance the research career development of the award holder and to enhance the research productivity of the supervising Saskatchewan university faculty member.

In 2015-16, SHRF offered the Crohn's and Colitis Postdoctoral Fellow, co-funded by Crohn's and Colitis Canada. It was awarded to Whitney Duff, supervised by Sharyle Fowler and Jane Alcorn.

The following are the nine 2015-16 Research Fellowship recipients:

Sidharath Dev
Dr. Heather Wilson (Lead Supervisor)
VIDO - InterVac
University of Saskatchewan
First Steps Towards Developing a Porcine Model for Gonorrhea - Optimization of Infection of Pig Genital Tract Epithelial Cells With Neisseria Gonorrhoeae

Whitney Duff
Dr. Sharyle Fowler (Lead Supervisor)
Dr. Jane Alcorn (Supervisor)
Medicine
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Exercise and Nutrition as Treatment Alternatives in Women with Inflammatory Bowel Disease During Preconception: Saskatchewan Multidisciplinary Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinic [MDIBDC]

Kavishankar Gawli
Dr. Suraj Unniappan (Lead Supervisor)
Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Nesfatin-1 Regulation of Energy Balance

Continued...

Chantal Kawalilak
Dr. James (J.D.) Johnston (Lead Supervisor)
Dr. David Cooper (Supervisor)
Mechanical Engineering
Engineering
University of Saskatchewan
Optimizing in Vivo Assessments of Cortical Bone Porosity and Strength: A Validation Study Linking Advanced Imaging, Mechanical Testing and Finite Element Modeling

Shuangshuang Li
Dr. Franco Vizeacoumar (Lead Supervisor)
Cancer Cluster
Division of Oncology
University of Saskatchewan
Targeting Epigenetic Modification to Eradicate Cancer Stem Cells

Laura McBreairty
Dr. Gordon Zello (Lead Supervisor)
Pharmacy and Nutrition
University of Saskatchewan
The Impact of a Pulse-Based Diet Intervention on Measures of Infertility and Metabolic Syndrome in Women with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome: Changes in Liver Adiposity and Individual Responsiveness based on Genetic Variation

Christoher Rudulier
Dr. John Gordon (Lead Supervisor)
Medicine
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Investigating the Therapeutic Ability of Tolerogenic Dendritic Cells in Humanized Asthmatic Mice

Tayyab Shah
Dr. Stephan Milosavljevic (Lead Supervisor)
Dr. Brenna Bath (Supervisor)
Physical Therapy
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Toward Equitable Distribution of Primary Health Care: A Comparative Geospatial Examination of Access to Community Based Health Services across Canadian Prairie Provinces

Shari Smith
Dr. Deborah Anderson (Lead Supervisor)
Oncology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Synthetic Lethal Approaches to Metastatic Breast Cancer Therapy

Funding Forward

When you ask any researcher what their research has led to, their most common answer is the need for more research. In the health research community, advancements are being made every day that have the potential to stop the spread of disease, improve the quality of life of someone living with a chronic illness, or increase efficiencies within the health care system. But this can only happen if our researchers have the funding necessary to explore these new discoveries and innovations.

At SHRF, we recognize that our funding is often the first of many steps in helping health researchers follow where the research leads. That's why we celebrate and reward those researchers who are successful at securing further or national funding. One way we do this is by providing a salary top-up award to Research Fellowship recipients who go on to received national Tri-Agency funding.

One 2014-15 SHRF Research Fellowship recipient received the salary top-up award this year in lieu of full SHRF funding:

Jonathan Pasternak
Top-Up Award
VIDO - InterVac
University of Saskatchewan
Development of an Oral Vaccine Platform for Neonates

Establishment Grants

SHRF's Establishment Grants are awarded to university research faculty who are new or newly resident in Saskatchewan. The grant aims to help them establish independent health research programs within the province and achieve the research productivity necessary to obtain longer-term and more substantial funding from other sources.

The following are the 11 2015-16 Establishment Grant recipients:

Jill Bally
Nursing
University of Saskatchewan
Evaluating a Theory-Based Hope Intervention to Support Parents of Children with Life Limiting and Life Threatening Illnesses

Marta Erlandson
Kinesiology
University of Saskatchewan
Adolescent Exercise for Bone Health

Leah Ferguson
Kinesiology
University of Saskatchewan
Aboriginal Women Athletes' Flourishing in Sport

Humphrey Fonge
Medical Imaging
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Targeting Non-Responsive Her2-Positive Breast Cancer with Novel Anti-Her3 Alpha-Particle Labelled Antibody Drug Radioconjugates

Matya Herman
Kinesiology and Health Studies
University of Regina
Seasonal and Daily Variation in Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour: Associations With Cardiometabolic Health

Farzad Moien-Afshari
Medicine
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Novel Therapeutic Interventions for Managing Cognitive Comorbidities in Status Epilepticus

Sarah Oosman
Physical Therapy
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Tah-Nigahniwhak! (They Will Be Leaders!) Growing up Well in a Northern Métis Saskatchewan Community

Noelle Rohatinsky
Nursing
University of Saskatchewan
Registered Nurse and Physician Mentorship in Saskatchewan's Rural Communities

Corey Tomczak
Kinesiology
University of Saskatchewan
Effect of Early Access Cardiac Rehabilitation on Ventricular Remodeling and Exercise Adherence: A Pilot-Feasibility Study

Maruti Uppalapati
Pathology and Laboratory
Medicine
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Developing Affinity Reagents for Molecular Imaging and Therapy of Ovarian Cancer

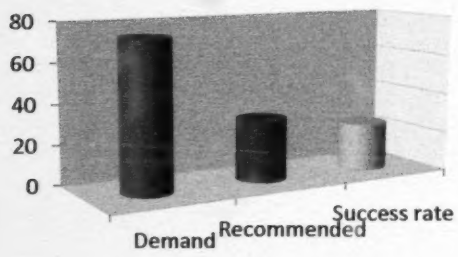
Franco Vizeacoumar
Oncology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Sythetic Dosage Lethality of Polo - Like Kimase 1 in Colorectal Cancer

Collaborative Innovation Development Grants

After a successful pilot year, SHRF once again offered the Collaborative Innovation Development (CID) grant to teams of health researchers to launch new ideas, develop new research questions and explore unique solutions to health issues relevant to Saskatchewan. This funding provides support for collaborative, interdisciplinary and innovative research activities that represent the first steps toward the pursuit of more comprehensive funding.

With such a strong response in its pilot year with 74 full applications received, and taking into consideration the feedback from applicants and facilitators on the application process, SHRF introduced a Letter of Intent (LOI) stage. The LOI stage alleviates some of the intensive work and uncertainty when researchers are preparing a full application based on a new and innovative idea. It also saves review committee members time and effort in reviewing full applications by ensuring only full applications are received that are deemed the most relevant in meeting the objectives of the competition.

2015-16 CID Application Numbers with Letter of Intent Stage



In 2015-16, four CID grants were awarded in partnership. The Lung Association of Saskatchewan co-funded John Gordon's team and Joshua Lawson's team. The Canadian Frailty Network co-funded Roslyn Compton's team and Michelle McCarron's team.

Though the grant recipients are part of a collaborative team, the list below only identifies the principal investigators and their affiliation.

For a full list of recipients, please see our website.

Deborah Anderson
Oncology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Identification of New Biomarkers for Breast Cancer

Catherine Arnold
Physical Therapy
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Does Fall Arrest Strategy Training (FAST) Added to a Fall Prevention Program Improve Physical Capacity to Prevent Serious Fall-Related Injury in Women?

Nicholas Carleton
Psychology
Arts
University of Regina
A Prospective Assessment of PTSD Symptoms Using Analogue Trauma Training with Nursing students

Francisco Cayabyab
Surgery
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Impact of Pro-inflammatory Blood-born Intruders on Neuronal Survival in Animal Stroke Models

Roslyn Compton
Nursing
Saskatchewan Polytechnic – Saskatoon
Exploring the Intersections of Leadership, Interdisciplinary Teams, and Patient Engagement Processes in Home First: A Case Study

Mark Eramian
Computer Science
Arts and Science
University of Saskatchewan
Novel Methods for Computational Risk Assessment of Thyroid Nodules in Sonographic images

Continued...

JOHN GORDON
Medicine
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Cellular Immunotherapy for Atopic Dermatitis and the 'Atopic March' to Asthma

JANET HILL
Veterinary Microbiology
Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Redefining the Role of Gardnerella Vaginalis in the Vaginal Microbiome

GEORGE KATSELIS
Medicine
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Examining the Developmental Origins of Kidney Disease in Infants of Diabetic Mothers using Urine Proteomics

ANDREA LAVOIE
Cardiology
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region
Validation of the Alive Activity Monitor in Cardiac Rehabilitation Patients

JOSHUA LAWSON
Medicine
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Health Care Utilization Patterns Among Children with Asthma

JEREMY LEE
Biochemistry
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Development of Drugs which Bind to α-Synuclein for Treatment of Parkinson's Disease

LYNN LOUTZENHISER
Psychology
Arts
University of Regina
Developing a Low-Intensity Parent-Directed CBT Treatment Program for Children with Anxiety Via the On-Line Therapy Unit

WANDA MARTIN
Nursing
University of Saskatchewan
Concept Mapping to Improve Health through Urban Agriculture

MICHELLE MCCARRON
Research and Performance Support
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region
The Three Wishes Project: Individualized, Patient-Oriented, Compassionate Care for Palliative Patients and their Families

BONNIE RICHARDSON
Nephrology
Internal Medicine
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region
Increasing Utilization of Home Renal Replacement Therapies in First Nations Communities: A Collaborative and Culturally Relevant Approach

MICHAEL SCHWANDT
Community Health and Epidemiology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Social Determinants of Health Among Migrant Workers in Saskatchewan

STUART SKINNER
Infectious Diseases
Medicine
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region
Mobile Hepatitis-C Care and Treatment in Big River First Nation

ANGELA SNOWSHOE
Educational Psychology
Education
University of Regina
The Concept and Role of Place for First Nations Youth Mental Health

SONIA UDOD
Nursing
University of Saskatchewan
Building Nurse Manager Leadership Within the Lean Management System

FRANCO VIZEACOUMAR
Oncology
Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Developing Targeted Therapeutic Reagents for Prostate Cancer

Spinal Cord Injury Research Grants

In 2015, three research teams were awarded the final $217,621 of the original $1million allocated for spinal cord injury (SCI) research as part of a special initiative funded by Saskatchewan Ministry of Health to address priorities defined in consultation with the Rick Hansen Institute. The funding commitment over five years was to support strong research aimed at reducing paralysis and improving health care outcomes and quality of life for people living with spinal cord injuries.

The following are the Principal Investigators of the three 2015-16 Spinal Cord Injury Research grant recipients:

JOSEF BUTTIGIEG
Biology
Science
University of Regina
Analysis of Pharmacological Targets in Acute and Chronic Spinal Cord Injury

GILLIAN MUIR AND VALERIE VERGE
Veterinary Biomedical Sciences / Anatomy and Cell Biology
Veterinary Medicine / Medicine
University of Saskatchewan
Acute Intermittent Hypoxia to Improve Motor Function After Spinal Cord Injury

ALISON OATES
Kinesiology
University of Saskatchewan
Investigating the Effect of Haptic Input on Walking Balance Following a Spinal Cord Injury

Saskatchewan Research Chairs Program

The Saskatchewan Research Chairs Program is intended to attract, support and retain top-quality research leaders who are working in a provincial priority area and who contribute to capacity-building and knowledge-sharing in those areas.

There are currently two Chairs funded by SHRF and partnering organizations. Dr. Michael Kelly was awarded the $1million Research Chair in Clinical Stroke Research in 2012, in partnership with the Heart and Stroke Foundation and the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Darrell Mousseau was renewed in 2015 as the $1million Research Chair in Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia in partnership with the Alzheimer's Society of Saskatchewan and the University of Saskatchewan.

Health Research Group Grants

In May 2014, SHRF announced that the Health Research Group Grants program was cancelled. Though there are no new competitions under this grant program, SHRF will honour its present commitments through the 2016-17 fiscal year. The cancellation of this program is part of the evolution of funding opportunities and acting in response to the changing research environment.

Research Connections Grants

The Research Connections program provides matching funds to support knowledge exchange through health research conferences, major meetings, research days and like events that are organized and held in Saskatchewan. Events promote sharing and using of health research knowledge in Saskatchewan and encourage linkages between and among researchers and others.

The following is a list of recipients and events that were awarded 2015-16 Research Connection Grants:

KEITH BONHAM
Saskatchewan Cancer Research Conference

ANDREW CAMERON
Canadian Society of Microbiologists 2015 Conference

DEAN CHAPMAN
Perspectives on Furthering Synchrotron Research in the Biological and Life Sciences

JULIE REED
Research Showcase 2015

JO-ANN EPISKENEW
From Elders to Youth: A Traditional Indigenous Knowledge Gathering

MARY HAMPTON
RESOLVE Saskatchewan's RESOLVE Research Day 2015

LIZ HARRISON
Understanding Lymphedema Symposium

MARIE LOVROD
Youth Transitioning Out of Care: Resource and Knowledge Sharing Days

CHRISTINE MCDOUGALL
Measurement Matters: The Art and Science of Developing the Right Indicators

RYAN MEILI
Global Health: Nourishing Equity

VIKRAM MISRA
One Health Research Symposium: What's In It For You?

ELAN PALUCK
Research Matters: Facilitating Research Connections

PHYLLIS PATERSON
Saskatchewan Stroke Symposium

CINDY PETERNELJ-TAYLOR
Custody and Caring: 14th Biennial International Conference on the Nurse's Role in the Criminal Justice System

INGRID PICKERING
Sixth Annual CIHR-THRUST Retreat

ALAN ROSENBERG
Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Syndromes: A Saskatchewan-led International Transdisciplinary Conference for Development of Early Detection, Targeted Treatment, and Prevention Protocols

HASSANALI VATANPARAST
Public Health Nutrition Research Network Symposium, Connecting for Food Security: From Global to Local Perspective

J. STEPHEN WORMITH
16th Biennial Violence & Aggression Symposium

Partner-led Programs

SHRF values strong partnerships. The benefit of our partnership efforts goes beyond the dollars available to build and broaden health research and innovation capacity. Partnerships work toward our goal of mobilizing knowledge for the physical, mental, social and economic well-being of Saskatchewan citizens.

Offering matching funding on partner-led programs and initiatives helps to connect Saskatchewan researchers to national and international networks.

The following were awarded in 2015-16:

Partner-led Program	Recipient/Affiliation	Title of Project	Term (Yrs)	SHRF $
SPOR Network in Primary and Integrated Health Care Innovations (CIHR)	Vivian Ramsden Family Medicine College of Medicine University of Saskatchewan	Examining Innovations to Support Disadvantaged Patients with Complex and Integrated Community Health Care Needs	1	10,000
Saskatchewan Network members submitted applications to Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for "Quick Strike" research projects, which are led by multiple provincial networks and require 1:1 matching funding (of up to $125,000 for 1 year).				

Partner-led Program	Recipient/Affiliation	Title of Project	Term (Yrs)	SHRF $
SPOR Networks in Chronic Disease (CIHR)	Krista Baerg Pediatrics College of Medicine University of Saskatchewan	Chronic Pain Network	5	125,000
Pediatrician Dr. Krista Baerg (University of Saskatchewan/Saskatoon Health Region) is part of a National Chronic Pain Network application funded through CIHR's Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) Networks in Chronic Disease. As with all SPOR opportunities, CIHR funding must be matched 50:50. Dr. Baerg will receive $50,000/year for five years from Saskatchewan to be matched by CIHR funds. The funds will be used to hire a research coordinator in Saskatchewan to facilitate patient participation in national trials as part of the network. SHRF is contributing half of the required match ($25,000/year for five years), with the College of Medicine and Children's Hospital Foundation providing the remaining matching funds.				

Partner-led Program	Recipient/Affiliation	Title of Project	Term (Yrs)	SHRF $
Partnerships for Health System Improvement (PHSI) (CIHR)	Jenny Basran Medicine College of Medicine University of Saskatchewan	Getting to the source of inter-regional variation in patient flow performance: A complex systems perspective	3	80,000
Partnerships for Health System Improvement (PHSI) (CIHR)	Paulette Hunter St. Thomas More College	Partnering Together to Improve Palliative Care in Long Term Care Homes	3	80,000
PHSI is a CIHR partnership program designed to support teams of researchers and decision-makers conducting applied and policy-relevant health systems and services research that responds to the needs of health care decision-makers and strengthens the Canadian health system.				

For full details and lists of recipients for these opportunities, visit the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Funding Decisions Database on their website.

Funding Programs Support

A new position was created at SHRF in 2015 to support the Funding team in accomplishing the tasks needed to offer an effective suite of programs. The new Funding Programs Officer works with all aspects of the organization's funding programs, including follow-up reporting, managing funding competitions as assigned, and contributing to program and policy development and evaluation.

Once again in 2015-16, the online Research Management System (RMS) was used to collect and review funding applications. SHRF is continuing to work toward a full adoption of this software, hopefully moving in the direction of using the software to collect reports from funded researchers and to disseminate more information, such as event details or follow-up surveys, as capabilities are assessed and expanded.

SHRF continues to use the Canadian Common CV (CCV) for applicants to our funding programs. As part of SHRF's role on the CCV Testing Team, the Funding Programs Officer participated in testing changes of the CCV form for accuracy and functionality. The work included weekly meetings with the test team, testing changes that affect SHRF users and templates, and signing off once the results were satisfactory.

Impact and Evaluation

As part of building a vibrant culture of health research and innovation, SHRF is committed to measuring and demonstrating the impact of health research in Saskatchewan. The importance of accurate and relevant reporting goes beyond the assessment of current SHRF investments into the health research community. It is important to be able to recognize the needs of our province and compare our successes and opportunities to the national health research scene so we can continue to improve our results.

Improving Indicators and the Measurement of Health Research Impact

In 2015-16, SHRF again sat as an active member of multiple national committees and groups focused on improving indicators and the measurement of health research impacts. As part of the National Alliance of Provincial Health Research Organizations (NAPHRO) Impact Analysis Group (IAG), SHRF continues to be a leader in the research impact assessment area. This year, the group has agreed on harmonizing a core set of indicators that align with the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS) ROI Framework. SHRF and the IAG can now work together on interprovincial impact assessment projects. The IAG is also adopting a common terminology for standardization of reporting funding dollars between provincial and federal agencies, and non-profits. The work completed this year with this and other groups in developing a new framework for reporting will see the benefits in the coming years for sharing the impact and outputs of health research that are positively affecting our local and global health.

Making Strides in Stroke Research
Research Chair in Clinical Stroke Research Review

"A provincial research chair creates the powerful ability to get key people. And people matter. We've made a big difference because of the high-quality, inspired team of people involved in this research program"
Dr. Michael Kelly,
Saskatchewan Research Chair

The mid-term evaluation of the funded Chair in Clinical Stroke Research, held by Dr. Michael Kelly, was completed in 2015-16. The Chair has been a platform for Dr. Kelly to pursue his work as a neurosurgeon, stroke prevention advocate and stroke researcher. The Chair integrates clinical care, basic science and clinical research, allowing Dr. Kelly to pursue work in the operating room and at the Canadian Light Source synchrotron to advance understanding of strokes and improve prevention and treatments.

As Chair, Dr. Kelly has stated he has four goals: maintain a world-class clinical program in cerebrovascular and endovascular neurosurgery; help the Saskatchewan Cerebrovascular Centre become a leading facility in clinical trials in stroke research; improve stroke awareness; and develop a robust basic science program to advance the understanding, prevention and treatment of stroke. Using the framework developed by the Canadian Academy of Heath Sciences (CAHS) for return on investment in health research, the evaluation of Dr. Kelly's chair award has demostrated significant activity in most of the CAHS impact categories, including: building research capacity; advancing knowledge; informing decision-making; health impacts; and economic and social impacts.

"Dr. Kelly's work and advocacy is leading to system change and will improve stroke care across the continuum of care."
Lorie Langenfurth, CEO,
Heart and Stroke Foundation in Saskatchewan

"Twenty years ago, patients presenting with a stroke in the emergency department were put at the back. This has changed and the work undertaken by Dr. Kelly has changed the way we look at patients and how we treat them. It has improved people's lives."
Dr. Jim Thornhill,
Special Assistant to the Vice President, Research, University of Saskatchewan

Aging-Related Research Assessment

In 2015-16, SHRF started its research impact assessment of Saskatchewan's aging-related research. Using a case study approach and supplementary data from Uber Research on publications and grant success, two clusters of research will be profiled including researchers at the College of Kinesiology (University of Saskatchewan) and researchers affiliated with the University of Regina Centre on Aging and Health. SHRF intends to collect data through a series of focus groups and this information will be used by to deliver a number of communication pieces on the impact of this research.

Return on Investment of Collaborative Innovation Development (CID)Program

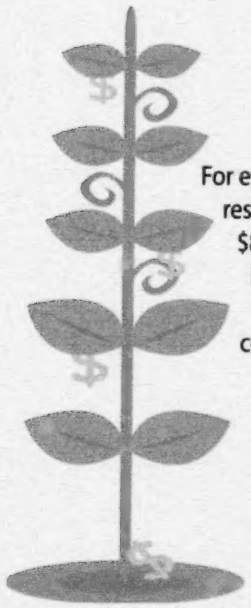
SHRF began piloting the use of an ROI methodology in its evaluation of the CID program in 2015-16. Key indicators in this methodology are leveraged funds and collaborations. We hope this methodology will add to the options funders have to measure and demonstrate how investing public dollars in health research improves the functioning of health systems and ultimately broader health, social and economic impacts.

Five-Year Follow-Up

To measure and demonstrate the impact of the health research SHRF is funding, a five-year follow-up survey is completed every year with our Establishment grant recipients. The purpose of the Establishment grant is exactly as it sounds – to establish the careers of world-class researchers in the province of Saskatchewan to benefit our local and global health. Establishment grantees are a key factor to building and broadening Saskatchewan's health research and innovation capacity.

100%

of respondents* received further major funding ($25,000+)

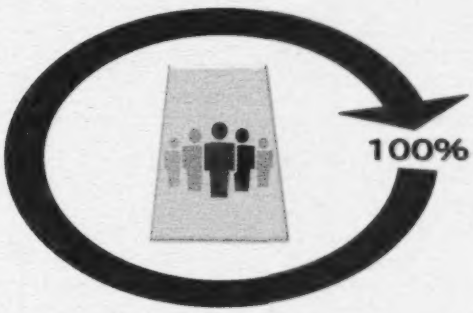


For every SHRF $ invested, respondents* bring in $8.22 as a principal investigator and $15.47 as a co-investigator on other grants.

*2010-11 Establishement grantees responding 5 years post-award

TOP FOUR IMPACTS OF SHRF FUNDING FOR RESEARCHERS:

- Subsequent research
  "The SHRF grant provided a financial lifeline that allowed me to secure other funding."
- Students/trainees
  "One of my students has become a leading authority on qualitative food environments research as a result of the SHRF funded project."
- Career development
  "The funding... was vital to me as I started my career. Without it, it would have been that much harder to move forward."
- Leveraging additional research funds
  "I believe the SHRF awards were critical in my receiving what is now approximately $767,500 in CIHR research funds."



of researchers awarded Establishment grants in 2010-11 are still in Saskatchewan.

Sponsorships

Sponsorships help to further SHRF's vision of establishing a vibrant culture of health research and innovation for a stronger Saskatchewan. It also allows us to build relationships with other organizations that are strongly aligned with our mission, values and strategic goals.

SHRF Sponsored Events 2015-16	
Hacking Health Hackathon	$2,500
2020 Health Visions Conference Series hosted by The Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce	$5,000
North-West Health Equity Forum hosted by the National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health, St. Francis Xavier University	$2,500
Industry Talks: Healthcare and Research hosted by the U of S Student Employment Career Centre (SECC)	$500
Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan 2015 Donor Recognition Reception	$3,000
Total	$13,500

Research for Health Magazine

SHRF published the third edition of *Research for Health,* which showcases researchers, partners and research centres that drive Saskatchewan's health innovation system and the integral research that is being done in the province.

Some of the features include Dr. Franco Vizeacoumar's exploration of targeted therapy for colorectal cancer; Dr. Joshua Lawson and his team's look at new ways to identify and assess constituents in dust and their relationship to childhood asthma; and Dr. Tayyab Shah's investigation of how the city or neighbourhood you live in can affect your access to primary health care. These and the other stories featured in the magazine provide a glimpse at the research currently being done to make our province a healthier place to live.

This edition of the magazine was widely distributed throughout the province to:

- various provincial and national health-related organizations;
- partner organizations and institutional stakeholders;
- provincial government officials;
- hospital and doctor's waiting rooms; and
- media outlets.

Superbugs: Stopping the Infection Before It Happens

More than 18,000 hospitalized patients in Canada acquire multi-drug-resistant strains of bacteria each year. By 2050, it is predicted that these 'superbugs' will kill more people than cancer and cost the global economy trillions of dollars.

"I think we are underestimating the severe public health risk these antibiotic-resistant bacteria are going to cause," says Dr. Andrew Cameron, assistant professor in the Department of Biology at the University of Regina. "For some pathogens we are in a post-antibiotic era, and routine surgeries such as caesarean sections are going to become dangerous."

Although we have developed procedures for cleaning equipment and washing our hands to help prevent the spread of harmful bacteria, bacterial infections will continue to increase with the loss of effective antibiotics, growing and aging human populations, and eroding environmental quality. "The best mechanism to prevent infection is to block transmission, and to do this we need to identify sources and transmission routes of infectious bacteria," says Dr. Cameron.

Dr. Cameron and collaborators, Drs. Jessica Minion and Meredith Faires from Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, and Drs. David Alexander and Ryan McDonald from the Saskatchewan Disease Control Laboratory, were recently awarded a SHRF Collaborative Innovation Development grant to enhance our understanding of the sources and transmission routes of antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

"Our project is designed specifically to increase provincial capacity to identify and track disease outbreaks, to develop better tools for this application, and to use the results to immediately and directly influence decision making around improving safety of health care and improving well-being in Saskatchewan communities."

Read more about this vital research in the third edition of *Research for Health*.

Events

Saskatchewan Funders' Collaboration Session

SHRF hosted a morning collaboration session with several non-profit and hospital foundations present. The meeting's agenda consisted of roundtable introductions, SHRF awareness presentation, partnership model presentation and discussion on opportunities to collaborate with each other. Attendance was 100% from the organizations that committed to attending and included 15 individuals from the following 10 organizations:

- Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada, Saskatchewan Division;
- Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan;
- Heart and Stroke Foundation Canada, Saskatchewan Office;
- Saskatchewan Cancer Agency;
- The Arthritis Society;
- AIDS Saskatoon;
- ALS Society of Saskatchewan;

- Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation;
- St. Paul's Hospital Foundation; and
- Children's Hospital Foundation.

Santé! Awards Evening

SHRF's annual Santé! Awards Evening was held on December 4, 2015, to celebrate health research excellence in Saskatchewan.

The event is a chance to:

- Recognize researchers for their contributions to a vibrant culture of health research and innovation;
- Raise awareness of the outstanding health research happening in Saskatchewan; and
- Foster and strengthen connections with the research community, our partners and other provincial supporters.

This year's event saw 200+ people in attendance, including provincial and municipal government officials, top researchers, partners and other health research supporters. SHRF also received strong sponsorship support from various organizations this year totalling $11,000.

In addition to Establishment and Fellowship top researcher awards, this year top research team awards were presented for the Collaborative Innovation Development grants. The following is the list of Top Researcher or Research Team Awards:

Award Name	Award Recipient	Title of Work
Top Establishment Grant – Biomedical	Franco Vizeacoumar	*Synthetic Dosage Lethality of Polo-like Kinase 1 in Colorectal Cancer*
Top Establishment Grant – Socio-Health	Corey Tomczak	*Effect of Early Access Cardiac Rehabilitation on Ventricular Remodeling and Exercise Adherence: A Pilot-Feasibility Study*
Top Research Fellowship Award – Biomedical	Chantal Kawalilak	*Optimizing In Vivo Assessments of Cortical Bone Porosity and Strength: A Validation Study Linking Advanced Imaging, Mechanical Testing and Finite Element Modeling*
Top Research Fellowship Award – Socio-Health	Tayyab Shah	*Toward Equitable Distribution of Primary Health Care: A Comparative Geospatial Examination of Access to Community Based Health Services across Canadian Prairie Provinces*
Top Collaborative Innovation Development Grant - Biomedical	Troy Harkness	*In Vivo and In Vitro Evaluation of Patient-Derived Breast Cancer Cells for Early Detection and Treatment of Drug Resistant Tumors*
Top Collaborative Innovation Development Grant – Clinical	Richard Huntsman	*Cannabidiol in Children with Refractory Epileptic Encephalopathy: A Phase 1 Open Label Dose Escalation Study*
Top Collaborative Innovation Development Grant – Health Services and Population Health (Group 1)	Anne Leis	*Breast Health Care in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan: Developing a Cutting-Edge Research Base Infrastructure to Assess Reach, Appropriateness and Outcomes*
Top Collaborative Innovation Development Grant – Health Services and Population Health (Group 2)	Caroline Tait	*Transforming Métis Health Services Together: Development of Research Governance Partnerships Between Métis Peoples and the Saskatoon Health Region*

SHRF Achievement Award

This annual award is presented to an individual in health research whose exemplary career achievements have inspired us with their drive, leadership and ingenuity. Candidates are nominated by their peers and considered by an expert panel of national and local experts from a range of fields. This year's award was presented to Dr. Debra Morgan. She is a Professor and Chair in Rural Health Delivery at the Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture (CCHSA). Dr. Morgan and her team continue to make remarkable advances in the health care system, particularly in the areas of rural and remote dementia care. Her ability to foster international collaborations, while leading change in Saskatchewan, makes Dr. Morgan the most worthy candidate for this year's award.

Achievement Award Review Panel

Adam Baxter-Jones
College of Graduate Studies and Research
University of Saskatchewan

Sonya Corkum
Knowledge Translation Consultant

Kevin Keough
Executive Director
Alberta Prion Research Institute

Health Research Week

SHRF once again facilitated the proclamation by the Government of Saskatchewan of "Health Research Week" – November 29 to December 5. This year, SHRF shared stories of research activities occurring in the province on Twitter and hosted a successful celebration of health research with our annual Santé! Awards Evening.

Open House

In November 2015, the SHRF office relocated within the Atrium Building at Innovation Place in Saskatoon to a space that was more accommodating of our staff size and functional needs. Once things were settled, an open house was held to welcome our partners and stakeholders to our new space.

Funding-Related Events

SHRF holds standing events in Saskatoon and Regina that tie in to our funding competitions. The Funding Information Sessions are held to provide potential applicants with the information about what opportunities are available and what SHRF is looking for in successful applications. Funding Orientations are held for successful applicants to outline specific expectations and provide tips on successfully carrying out their responsibilities. In 2015-16, SHRF held five Information Sessions and four Orientations.

In anticipation of the new targeted patient-oriented research CID grant opportunity, SHRF worked with the developing Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research (SCPOR) to hold two networking events. The specific objective of this new targeted CID grant is to stimulate patient-oriented research and collaborations to advance current Saskatchewan health system priorities aimed at improving patient experiences as they move through the health care system.

Each event, one in Saskatoon and one in Regina, was meant to bring people together from different stakeholder groups, to realize possible opportunities for interdisciplinary research teams. One requirement for the grant application is a minimum team of five applicants that includes at least one researcher, one decision-maker, one healthcare provider and at least two patient/family advisors. When registering for the event, attendees were asked to fill out a profile to better anticipate who was at the event and maximize the networking experience. With about 24 in attendance in Regina and 40 in attendance in Saskatoon, feedback on the events was positive and SHRF was able to gain some insights as to what is needed for successful networking events in the future.

Communications and Outreach Support

In this time of renewal for SHRF, effective communication is more important than ever. In 2015-16, SHRF made a further commitment to bolstering our communication and outreach efforts by shifting the existing position of Knowledge Mobilization Officer to a Communications and Outreach Officer. This now establishes a strong communications team of three who will redefine the communication and outreach goals and objectives, build the internal systems and processes necessary to achieve those goals and objectives, and establish benchmarks for measuring success.

Achieving these goals will not be possible without effective tools. That is why SHRF has been working with a third-party consultant to redesign our existing website. The purpose of the redesign is to develop the foundation needed to engage in digital communications and to provide users with a responsive design. The new site is expected to launch in the second quarter of the 2016-17 fiscal year. Alongside the launch of the new site is a refresh of our brand identity to reflect a more vibrant presence that aligns with SHRF's new strategic goals.

Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation

Financial Statement

For the year ending March 31, 2016

Report of Management

Management is responsible for the integrity of the financial information reported by the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation.

Fulfilling this responsibility requires the preparation and presentation of financial statements and other financial information in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles that are consistently applied, with any exceptions specifically described in the financial statements.

The accounting system used by the Foundation includes an appropriate system of internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that:

- transactions are authorized;
- the assets of the Foundation are protected from loss and unauthorized use; and
- the accounts are properly kept and financial reports are properly monitored to ensure reliable information is provided for preparation of financial statements and other financial information.

To ensure management meets its responsibilities for financial reporting and internal control, board members of the Foundation discuss audit and financial reporting matters with representatives of management at regular meetings. Foundation board members have also reviewed and approved the financial statements with representatives of management.

The Provincial Auditor of Saskatchewan had audited the Foundation's statement of financial position, statements of operations, change in net financial assets and cash flow. Her responsibility is to express an opinion on the fairness of management's financial statements. The Auditor's report outlines the scope of her audit and her opinion.

Don Somers
Board Chair

Heather Magotiaux
Chief Executive Officer

PROVINCIAL AUDITOR
of Saskatchewan

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To: The Members of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2016, and the statement of operations, statement of change in net financial assets, and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards for Treasury Board's approval, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation as at March 31, 2016, and the results of its operations, changes in its net financial assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Judy Ferguson

Regina, Saskatchewan
June 23, 2016

Judy Ferguson, FCPA, FCA
Provincial Auditor

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) www.auditor.sk.ca

STATEMENT 1

SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As at March 31

	2016	2015
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents (Schedule 2)	$ 2,009,069	$ 108,070
Accrued interest receivable	32,127	51,032
Accounts receivable	208,469	243,372
Short-term investments (Schedule 2)	2,850,124	3,250,000
Long-term investments (Schedule 2)	300,000	2,453,443
	5,399,789	6,105,917
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	232,222	40,813
Payroll liabilities	18,534	19,415
Grants payable	4,320,125	5,613,971
	4,570,881	5,674,199
Net financial assets (Statement 3)	828,908	431,718
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets (Note 3)	45,358	61,494
Prepaid expenses	25,572	12,824
	70,930	74,318
Accumulated surplus (Statement 2)	$ 899,838	$ 506,036

Commitments (Schedule 3, Notes 2(e), and 5)

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

STATEMENT 2

SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
For the year Ended March 31

	2016		2015
	Budget	**Actual**	**Actual**
	(Note 10)		
Revenues			
Government Contributions			
Innovation Saskatchewan	$ 5,630,000	$ 5,630,000	$ -
Ministry of Health	200,000	200,000	5,830,004
Ministry of Advanced Education	-	-	400,000
Health Quality Council	60,000	60,000	60,000
Non-Government Contributions			
Alzheimer's Society of Saskatchewan	100,000	100,000	100,000
Chron's & Colitis Canada	50,000	75,000	25,000
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada	100,000	100,000	100,000
Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation	100,000	-	-
Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan	20,000	20,000	20,000
Terry Fox Research Institute	-	-	50,000
Other Contributions (Note 12)	120,000	39,988	60,000
Donations and Sponsorships	25,000	11,161	14,696
Other Revenue (Note 7)	156,690	118,533	223,138
Total Revenues	6,561,690	6,354,682	6,882,838
Expenses			
Research funding			
Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation led programs	4,324,415	4,083,167	4,803,099
Partner led programs (Note 6a)	590,000	395,000	625,000
Program support	306,175	243,819	192,350
Communication & Outreach	450,095	310,799	321,321
Impact & Evaluation	162,916	103,557	44,430
Leadership and management			
Board	53,250	28,371	25,057
Administrative	942,734	796,167	824,991
Total Expenses (Schedule 1)	6,829,585	5,960,880	6,836,248
Annual (deficit) surplus (Statement 3, 4)	$ (267,895)	393,802	46,590
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year		506,036	459,446
Accumulated surplus, end of year (Statement 1)		$ 899,838	$ 506,036

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

STATEMENT 3

SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS
For the Year Ended March 31

	2016	2015
Annual surplus (Statement 2)	$ 393,802	$ 46,590
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(37,182)	(28,805)
Disposal of capital assets	252	-
Amortization of tangible capital assets	53,066	43,411
	16,136	14,606
Acquisiton of prepaid expense	(74,068)	(39,828)
Use of prepaid expense	61,320	48,333
	(12,748)	8,505
Increase in net financial assets	397,190	69,701
Net financial assets, beginning of year	431,718	362,017
Net financial assets, end of year (Statement 1)	$ 828,908	$ 431,718

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

STATEMENT 3

SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS
For the Year Ended March 31

	2016	2015
Annual surplus (Statement 2)	$ 393,802	$ 46,590
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(37,182)	(28,805)
Disposal of capital assets	252	-
Amortization of tangible capital assets	53,066	43,411
	16,136	14,606
Acquisiton of prepaid expense	(74,068)	(39,828)
Use of prepaid expense	61,320	48,333
	(12,748)	8,505
Increase in net financial assets	397,190	69,701
Net financial assets, beginning of year	431,718	362,017
Net financial assets, end of year (Statement 1)	$ 828,908	$ 431,718

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

STATEMENT 4

SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the Year Ended March 31

	2016	2015
Operating transactions		
Annual surplus (Statement 2)	$ 393,802	$ 46,590
Non-cash items included in annual surplus:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	53,066	43,411
Loss on disposal of capital assets	253	-
Bond amortization	3,318	3,309
Net change in non-cash working capital items:		
Accrued interest receivable	18,904	5,772
Accounts receivable	34,903	(92,509)
Prepaid expenses	(12,747)	8,505
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	191,409	(346,882)
Payroll liabilities	(881)	8,118
Grants payable	(1,293,846)	185,712
Cash (used) by operating transactions	(611,819)	(137,974)
Capital transactions		
Cash (used) to acquire tangible capital assets	(37,182)	(28,805)
Cash applied to capital transactions	(37,182)	(28,805)
Investing transactions		
Purchase of investments	(700,000)	(2,950,000)
Proceeds from disposal and redemption of investments	3,250,000	2,700,000
Cash provided (used) by investing transactions	2,550,000	(250,000)
Increase (Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	1,900,999	(416,779)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	108,070	524,849
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	$ 2,009,069	$ 108,070

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2016

1. Establishment of the Foundation

On January 31, 2003, *The Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation Act* (S.S. 2002, c.S-21.1) came into force establishing the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (Foundation). The Foundation is responsible for organizing, managing and allocating most provincial health research funding in Saskatchewan and for ensuring that supported research fits with the Province's health research priorities and leads to benefits for health and the health system in Saskatchewan.

2. Accounting Policies

Pursuant to standards established by the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB), and published by the Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA) Canada, the Foundation is classified as an other government organization. The Foundation uses Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards. The following accounting principles are considered to be significant.

a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting.

b) Revenue

Historically, the Foundation's main revenue for operations has been contributions from Ministry of Health – General Revenue Fund. Effective April 1st, 2015, responsibility for the Foundation, including the provision of annual grant funding, was transferred from the Ministry of Health to Innovation Saskatchewan. Other revenue comes from partnerships, interest, recoveries and miscellaneous revenue.

Funds not spent during the term of a research grant or award compose recoveries if the grant or award expense was recognized in the prior years.

Government contributions are recognized as revenue when the transfer is authorized and any eligibility criteria are met, except to the extent that contribution stipulations give rise to an obligation that meets the definition of a liability. Contributions are recognized as designated assets when contribution stipulations give rise to a liability. Contributions are recognized in the statement of operations as the stipulation liabilities are settled.

c) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) accounting principles requires the Foundation's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of commitments at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

d) Tangible capital assets

The recognition and measurement of tangible capital assets is based on their service potential. Purchases of furniture and office equipment over $250 and computer hardware and software over $500 are recorded at cost as a capital asset. Purchases below these amounts are expensed as incurred. Amortization is recorded on a straight-line basis as follows:

Furniture	10 years
Office Equipment	5 years
Computer Hardware and Software	3 years
Leasehold Improvements	length of lease

Normal maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred.

e) **Research grants and awards expense**

Grants and awards expense is recorded when eligibility has been determined and the grant and or award has been authorized. Awarded funds are sent to the recipients' home institution to manage and disburse. Funds not spent during the term of a research grant or award reduce the respective expense if the expense was recognized in the same year.

Internally administered awards:

The Foundation holds annual funding competitions through which applications are adjudicated by experts based on excellence and relevance. Terms vary and are often multi-year. For internally administered multi-year grants and awards, the Foundation assesses eligibility and provides authorization on a yearly basis (see Schedule 3, Schedule of Future Research Funding Commitments).

Externally administered awards:

For some partnership programs, the Foundation's partner administers the grants and awards. For example, the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) currently administers Partnerships for Health System Improvement (PHSI) and certain Strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR) related grants and awards. For externally administered multi-year grants and awards where full grants and awards are authorized at the commencement, the Foundation records the full amount of the expense in the year that authorization for funding is received from CIHR.

f) **Investments**

Investments are valued at amortized cost.

3. Tangible Capital Assets

	Furniture and Equipment	Leasehold Improvements	2016 Totals	2015 Totals
Opening cost	$227,838	$48,848	$276,686	$264,137
Additions during the year	24,175	13,007	37,182	28,805
Disposals during the year	13,641	48,848	62,489	16,256
Closing cost	238,372	13,007	251,379	276,686
Opening accumulated amortization	166,344	48,848	215,192	188,037
Amortization for the year	46,562	6,504	53,066	43,411
Disposals during the year	13,389	48,848	62,237	16,256
Closing accumulated amortization	199,517	6,504	206,021	215,192
Net book value of tangible capital assets	$38,855	$6,503	$45,358	$61,494

4. Designated Assets

The Foundation is holding $163,073 as designated assets to be disbursed in future years; $66,000 for the Quality Improvement Chair and $97,073 for the Spinal Cord Chair.

5. Lease Commitments

At March 31, 2016, the Foundation had the following lease commitments:

	2017	2018	2019
Office Lease*	$ 135,181	$ 78,855	$ -
Postage meter lease	1,986	1,986	1,159
	$ 137,167	$ 80,841	$ 1,159

*The office lease that was renewed for five years during 2012-13 was revised as the office moved to a new office space in the same building. The lease expires October 31, 2017.

6. a) Partner-led Programs

The Foundation periodically enters into funding partnerships, often spanning more than one year, to help achieve its goals and objectives. In addition to providing research funding through already established partnerships, the Foundation provided research funding through the following new partnerships in 2015-16:

i) Partnerships for Health System Improvement (PHSI)

In a 3 year partnership with CIHR that started in 2015-16, the Foundation matched funding of $160,000 from the CIHR on a 1:1 basis.

ii) Strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR)

In a 5 year partnership with CIHR the Foundation invested $125,000 for chronic disease research and $10,000 for a quick strike project.

b) Saskatchewan Research Chairs

Since 2009-10, the Foundation has been funding a five-year Saskatchewan Research Chair in Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementia, in 1:1 funding partnership with the Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan (ASOS). This funding was renewed for an additional five years with ASOS. The Foundation receives the partner's contribution on a quarterly basis, expenses the chair awards on an annual basis, and sends the partner and Foundation funds together to the award holder's home institution. A five-year Saskatchewan Research Chair for Clinical Stroke Research was awarded in 2012-13 in equal partnership with Heart and Stroke Foundation. The Foundation has another research chair partnership where the award has not yet been made. Partner funds flow to the Foundation when there is a successful candidate in place.

c) Other Partnered Grants and Awards

During 2015-16, the Crohn's and Colitis Canada contributed $75,000 to partner on the Post-Doctoral Fellowship awards with the Foundation. In addition, the Foundation partnered 1:1 with the Lung Association of Saskatchewan on two Collaborative Innovation Development grants totalling $39,988.

7. Other Revenue

In 2015-16, other revenue generated by the Foundation included interest of $92,173 and recoveries of $25,148.

8. Related Party Transactions

Included in these financial statements are transactions with various Saskatchewan Crown Corporations, ministries, agencies, boards and commissions related to the Foundation by virtue of common control by the Government of Saskatchewan, and non-Crown corporations and enterprises subject to joint control or significant influence by the Government of Saskatchewan (collectively referred to as "related parties").

Routine operating transactions with related parties are recorded at the agreed upon rates charged by those organizations and are settled on normal trade terms. These transactions and amounts outstanding at year-end are as follows:

	2016	2015
Miscellaneous revenue:		
Health Quality Council	$ 62,500	$ 62,500
Innovation Saskatchewan	5,630,000	
Ministry of Health	200,000	5,830,000
Saskatchewan Workers Compensation	782	
University of Regina	2,500	2,500
University of Saskatchewan	30,148	124,853
Research grant, administrative and occupancy expenses		
Capital Pension Plan & Public Employee Pension Plan (PEPP) - employee benefits	55,163	47,574
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region	143,431	6,500
St. Thomas More College – University of Saskatchewan	80,000	
Saskatchewan Opportunities Corporation – Innovation Place	172,636	184,191
Saskatchewan Polytechnic	20,000	
SaskTel	9,985	7,985
University of Regina	661,448	1,144,596
University of Saskatchewan	3,580,682	4,220,171
Other	1,532	4,543
Accounts receivable		
University of Saskatchewan	10,000	8,577
Accounts payable, grants payable and accrued liabilities		
Grants payable		
University of Saskatchewan	3,366,653	4,405,587
University of Regina	742,395	1,180,697
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region	137,431	27,687
Saskatchewan Polytechnic	20,000	
St. Thomas More – University of Saskatchewan	53,646	
Other	97	939

The Foundation pays Provincial Sales Tax to the Ministry of Finance on all its taxable purchases. Taxes paid are recorded as part of the cost of those purchases.

Other transactions with related parties and amounts due to or from them are described separately in these financial statements and the notes thereto.

9. Financial Instruments

The Foundation has the following financial instruments: accrued interest receivable, accounts receivable, investments, accounts payable, and grants payable. The following paragraphs disclose the significant aspects of these financial instruments. The Foundation has policies and procedures in place to mitigate the associated risks.

a) Significant terms and conditions

There are no significant terms and conditions associated with the financial instruments, other than investments, that may affect the amount, timing, and certainty of future cash flows. Significant terms and conditions for investments are described separately on Schedule 2 of these financial statements.

b) Interest rate risk

The Foundation is exposed to interest rate risk when the value of its financial instruments fluctuates due to changes in market interest rates. As the Foundation seldom disposes of investments prior to maturity, this risk is minimal.

The Foundation's receivables and payables are non-interest bearing. Due to the short-term nature of these, as well as cash and short-term investments, interest rate risk is minimal. As market interest rates fluctuate the market value of long-term investments moves in the opposite direction. This risk will affect the price the Foundation could sell the investments for prior to maturity.

c) Credit risk

The Foundation is exposed to credit risk from potential non-payment of accounts receivable or investment income and principal.

Most of the Foundation's receivables are from registered charities with which the Foundation has partnership agreements. The credit risk is assessed to be minimal based on the history of these organizations honouring their financial commitments to the Foundation in a timely manner.

The Foundation's investments consist of provincial and federal government bonds, promissory notes, treasury bills and bankers acceptances with large Canadian banks. Therefore, credit risk for investments and related accrued interest receivable is minimal.

d) Fair value

For the following financial instruments, the carrying amounts approximate fair value due to their immediate or short-term nature:

- Accrued interest receivable
- Accounts receivable
- Short-term investments
- Accounts payable
- Grants payable
- Payroll liability

The fair value of long-term investments is $300,000. The quoted market values of the long-term investments are considered to be the fair values.

10. Budget

The operating budget was approved by the Foundation's Board on April 8, 2015.

11. Pension Plan

The Foundation had been a participating employer in the Capital Pension Plan, a defined contribution pension plan. Effective June 25, 2015, the Foundation and the plan members

transferred from the Capital Pension Plan to the Public Employees Pension Plan, a defined contribution pension plan. Eligible employees make monthly contributions of 7% of gross salary with the Foundation contributing 7.6% of gross salary. The Foundation's financial obligation is limited to making required contributions. During the year, the Foundation's total contributions were $55,163 (2014-15 $47,574).

12. Other Contributions

Other contributions represent the potential new partnerships the Foundation explores from the non-government sources. During 2015-16, the Foundation partnered 1:1 with the Lung Association of Saskatchewan on 2 Collaborative Innovation Development grants totalling $39,988.

SCHEDULE 1

SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES BY OBJECT
For the Year Ended March 31

	2016		2015
	Budget	**Actual**	**Actual**
	(Note 10)		
Advertising and promotion	$ 72,500	$ 31,989	$ 45,572
Amortization	39,815	53,066	43,411
Board expenses	53,250	28,371	25,058
Employee benefits	185,391	146,072	136,035
Employee salaries	868,937	729,086	637,375
Grants and awards	4,914,415	4,478,167	5,428,099
Office expenses	76,500	112,251	77,932
Office space	171,377	157,455	165,661
Professional Fees	245,750	140,858	165,428
Publications	56,500	23,606	50,432
Review committee expenses	48,800	29,734	19,590
Travel and meetings	96,350	30,225	41,655
	$ 6,829,585	$ 5,960,880	$ 6,836,248

SCHEDULE 2

SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS
As at March 31, 2016

	MATURITY DATE	CARRYING VALUE	EFFECTIVE RATE
Cash and cash equivalents (Statement 1)			
Cash		$ 176,634	
TD Waterhouse - Investment Savings Account		1,832,435	0.750
		2,009,069	
Short-term investments (Statement 1)			
Bank of Nova Scotia GIC	19-Jun-2016	900,000	2.000
Canadian Tire Bank GIC	12-Jul-2016	100,000	2.350
Royal Bank GIC	12-Jul-2016	100,000	2.100
TD Bank Bond	2-Aug-2016	350,124	2.948
Bank of Montreal GIC	30-Sep-2016	400,000	1.400
Bank of Nova Scotia GIC	9-Oct-2016	500,000	2.300
Royal Bank GIC	26-Oct-2016	300,000	1.400
Bank of Nova Scotia GIC	19-Dec-2016	200,000	2.010
		2,850,124	
Long-term investments (Statement 1)			
Bank of Nova Scotia GIC	18-Dec-2017	300,000	2.130
		300,000	
		$ 5,159,193	

SCHEDULE 3

SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE RESEARCH FUNDING COMMITMENTS
As at March 31, 2016

The Future Research Funding commitments at March 31, 2016 were as follows: Note 2(e)

YEAR		SASKATCHEWAN HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION PROGRAMS
2017	$	1,137,073
2018		350,000
2019		300,000
2020		200,000
	$	1,987,073

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